

Food and Consumer Service**Summer Food Service Program for Children; Program Reimbursement for 1995**

AGENCY: Food and Consumer Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the annual adjustments to the reimbursement rates for meals served in the Summer Food Service Program for Children (SFSP, or Program). These adjustments reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index and are required by the statute governing the Program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert M. Eadie, Chief, Policy and Program Development Branch, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Consumer Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1007, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, (703) 305-2620.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3507), no new recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

This action is exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866.

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.559 and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials, (7 CFR Part 3015, subpart V, and final rule related notice published at 48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983).

Definitions

The terms used in this Notice shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the regulations governing the SFSP (7 CFR Part 225).

Background

Pursuant to section 13 of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1761) and the regulations governing the SFSP (7 CFR Part 225), notice is hereby given of adjustments in Program payments for meals served to children participating in the SFSP during the 1995 Program. Adjustments are based on changes in the food away from home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban

Consumers for the period November 1993 through November 1994.

The new 1995 reimbursement rates in dollars are as follows:

Maximum Per Meal Reimbursement Rates**Operating Costs**

Breakfast—.1800; Lunch or Supper—.21200; Supplement—.5550.

Administrative Costs

a. For meals served at rural or self-preparation sites:

Breakfast—.1100; Lunch or Supper—.2000; Supplement—.0550.

b. For meals served at other types of sites:

Breakfast—.0875; Lunch or Supper—.1675; Supplement—.0425.

The total amount of payments to State agencies for disbursement to Program sponsors will be based upon these Program reimbursement rates and the number of meals of each type served. The above reimbursement rates, before being rounded-off to the nearest quarter-cent, represent a 1.8 per cent increase during 1994 (from 144.2 in November 1993 to 146.8 in November 1994) in the food away from home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The Department points out that the administrative rate for Supplements "for meals served at other types of sites" is the same rate that was in effect last year because the increase in the Consumer Price Index was insufficient to raise the rounded rate to the next higher quarter cent.

Authority: Secs. 9, 13 and 14, National School Lunch Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1758, 1761 and 1762a).

Dated: December 29, 1994.

Yvette S. Jackson,

Acting Administrator, Food and Consumer Service.

[FR Doc. 95-251 Filed 1-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-M

Rural Utilities Service**Notice of Meeting on Proposed Electric Distribution Mortgage**

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), formerly the Rural Electrification Administration, will be meeting with the ad hoc Mortgage Committee of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, at their request, to answer questions and discuss comments by the Committee on the proposed standard

form of mortgage published in the **Federal Register** on September 29, 1994 at 59 FR 49594.

DATES: The meeting will be held on January 18, 1995, starting at 9:00 a.m. eastern time, and will end no later than 3:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in room 1255, South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles R. Miller, Assistant to the Administrator for Policy Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-1500. Telephone: (202) 720-0424.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be an informal work session to discuss questions and comments from the ad hoc Committee regarding the overall structure and specific provisions of the proposed electric distribution mortgage. Emphasis will be mainly on technical discussions of individual issues. In addition to the ad hoc Committee and government representatives, the meeting room will accommodate 15 to 20 observers, who will be allowed entry to the room on a first-come first-served basis. RUS is willing to schedule other meetings with any interested individual or group to discuss the proposed mortgage.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*

Dated: December 20, 1994.

Wally Beyer,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95-248 Filed 1-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology**

[Docket No. 941243-4343]

Request for Public Comment on Technology Development and Research Needs To Reduce the Loss From Post-Earthquake Fires

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; Request for Public Comment.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology requests public suggestions and comments on technology development and research needs that will be used in developing recommendations to reduce the number and severity of post-earthquake fires. This is not a solicitation for proposals.

DATES: Written suggestions and comments (letter, fax, or e-mail) received by January 25, 1995 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Mr. W. Douglas Walton, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Polymers Building, Room A345, Gaithersburg, MD 20899. In addition, the fax number may be used (301-869-3531) or e-mail (dwalton@enh.nist.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anyone requesting information should contact Mr. W. Douglas Walton, telephone: 301-975-6872; fax: 301-869-3531; e-mail: dwalton@enh.nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Building and Fire Research Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), U.S. Department of Commerce, is developing recommendations to address the reduction of life and property loss resulting from post-earthquake fires. The recommendations will focus on concepts that would lead to the prevention of fires following an earthquake and the means to reduce the spread of fires that do occur. The recommendations will emphasize technologies with the potential for direct and near term impact on reducing the loss from fire in future earthquakes. The recommendations will include the role of water, gas, liquid fuel, electrical power, communications, and transportation lifeline systems in the ignition of fires and in the mitigation of fire spread.

The Laboratory is seeking public input in the form of concepts for technology development and research needs which will be used in developing a research plan. Technology development and research needs may include concepts related to pre-earthquake preparations, post-earthquake operations, new and retrofit construction techniques, and the rapid restoration of fire protection and lifeline systems following an earthquake.

This request is only for the purpose of identifying technology development and research needs. This request is not directed at the implementation of specific measures for reducing the loss from post-earthquake fires.

Dated: December 29, 1994.

Samuel Kramer,

Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 95-265 Filed 1-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122094B]

Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS); request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the intention of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) to prepare an SEIS for proposed Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP). The FMP was prepared by the Council and approved and implemented by NMFS under provisions of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act). The purpose of Amendment 9 is to manage shrimp trawling in the Gulf of Mexico to reduce the bycatch mortality of fish, particularly juvenile stages.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the SEIS must be submitted by February 6, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Scoping comments and requests for additional information should be sent to Terrance Leary, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 5401 West Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 331, Tampa, FL 33609-2486.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terrance R. Leary, 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FMP was approved by NMFS and implemented in 1981; it documented a significant problem in the Gulf Mexico shrimp fishery involving adverse effects on other fisheries such as the groundfish and reef fish fisheries resulting from the bycatch of fish in shrimp trawling operations.

In the process of trawling for shrimp, various species of fish are inadvertently caught. Many of these fish, often at juvenile stages, die before being discarded. Some overfished species, such as Gulf red snapper, are significantly and adversely affected because of the bycatch mortality which is hampering stock recovery. Annual stock assessments for red snapper for the period 1990-94 have indicated that the red snapper resource cannot recover from its overfished status, even with a total closure of the directed fishery, without a 50 percent reduction in red snapper mortality resulting from shrimp trawl bycatch.

The Council developed a draft Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish in 1981 that proposed shrimp trawl-gear requirements contingent on development of bycatch excluder devices in shrimp trawls that would reduce bycatch by 50 percent, with no more than a 3-percent loss of shrimp. In 1990, the Council, with pledges of assistance from the shrimp industry, announced its intent to reduce bycatch mortality of juvenile red snapper in the shrimp fishery by 50 percent by 1993. The 3-year delay was provided to develop the methodology in cooperative studies with the industry. The Council's goal for bycatch reduction was affected by the 1990 amendments to the Magnuson Act that mandated a 3-year research program to assess the impacts of shrimp trawl bycatch on fishery resources under the management of the Council. The results of this research program will be considered as an important basis for any specific management actions.

Recent advances in gear development through government and shrimp industry efforts have produced Bycatch Reduction Devices (BRDs) that successfully exclude juvenile fish from shrimp trawls with a minimal loss of shrimp. In September 1994, the Council began development of Amendment 9 to the FMP to address bycatch reduction. The Council is considering the following management alternatives for this amendment:

1. No management action;
2. Require the use of NMFS-approved BRDs in shrimp trawls in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) within the 110-fathom (201.17 m) contour;
3. Require the use of NMFS-approved BRDs in shrimp trawls in specified areas of the Gulf of Mexico EEZ;
4. Criteria for NMFS approval of BRDs, including specifications for exclusion of bycatch and retention of shrimp; and
5. Seasonal and area restrictions to reduce bycatch.

The FMP was prepared by the Council in 1980 and approved and implemented in 1981. A draft and final environmental impact statement was prepared for the FMP which evaluated the environmental effects of the FMP and the shrimp fishery. The SEIS to be prepared for Amendment 9 will examine the environmental impacts of the major alternative management measures considered by the Council as well as assessing, based on currently available information, the impacts of the Gulf shrimp trawl fisheries on the human environment, the shrimp resources, protected species